

Message Text

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73-62

ACTION IO-03

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 AF-04 NSC-07 NSCE-00 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 L-02 CPR-02 /044 W

----- 024104

P 071918Z MAR 73

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3011

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGUI PRIORITY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE USUN 793

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: UN CT AORG OGEN

SUBJ: CAR MISSION DEBTS

1. CAR MISSION IS IN CONSIDERABLE DIFFICULTY BECAUSE OF LACK OF FUNDS TO PAY BILLS. TELEPHONE COMPANY ADVISED US TODAY THAT CAR MISSION SERVICE WILL BE TERMINATED AS OF MAR 8 FOR NON-PAYMENT OF BILLS, NOTWITHSTANDING OUR REQUEST THAT SERVICE BE CONTINUED PENDING COMPLETION OUR EFFORTS TO OBTAIN PAYMENT.

2. WE UNDERSTAND CAR MISSION FINANCIAL PROBLEMS TO BE AS FOLLOWS:

A. SINCE 1971, DUE TO INSUFFICIENT FUNDS, DEBTS HAVE BEEN ACCUMULATED WHICH, AS OF JAN 1974, AMOUNTED TO ABOUT \$33,000.00.

B. AT PRESENT CAR MISSION HAS OUTSTANDING BILLS WITH:

NY TELEPHONE COMPANY \$2,800.00

SHELL 1,500.00

MOBIL 300.00

PELHAM OIL 700.00

FRENCH CABLE \$3,300.00

WESTERN UNION 1,500.00

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C. OTHER SEPARATE DEBTS RANGING FROM \$50.00 TO \$500.00.

3. ON FEB 21 CAR GOVT INFORMED CAR MISSION THAT THEY HAD MADE A TRANSFER OF \$4,000.00 FOR CAR EXPENSES FOR FIRST QUARTER

OF 1974. THIS MONEY HAS NOT YET ARRIVED AND WHEN IT DOES IT WILL ONLY ALLOW EACH CREDITOR TO RECEIVE A SMALL FRACTION OF THE MONEY OWED. THIS IS WHAT CAR MISSION HAS BEEN DOING FOR PAST THREE YEARS. FURTHER, FOR LACK OF FUNDS CAR MISSION HAS BEEN UNABLE PAY FOR INSURANCE OF CAR MISSION CARS, AND HOUSE IN NEW ROCHELLE IS ALSO UNINSURED.

4. AMB ADAMA TAMBOUX SAYS HE HAS SENT MANY LETTERS AND TELEGRAMS TO GOVT IN GANGUI TO EXPLAIN FACTS. HE TELLS US THEY DO NOT UNDERSTAND THAT COST OF LIVING IN NEW YORK IS HIGH AND KEEPS GOING UP. CONSEQUENTLY, HE HAS OFFICIALLY ASKED IF AMERICAN AMB IN BANGUI COULD SPEAK PERSONALLY TO PRESIDENT BOKASSA TO OBTAIN:

A. A SPECIAL CREDIT OF \$25,000.00 TO PAY PREVIOUS DEBTS, SOME GOING BACK TO 1971.

B. TO INCREASE IN CAR QUARTERLY ALLOWANCE FOR CURRENT EXPENSES FROM \$4,000.00 TO \$10,000.00 AT LEAST STARTING WITH JAN 1974.

5. WE HOPE DEPT WILL AUTHORIZE EMB BANGUI TO MAKE APPROPRIATE REPRESENTATIONS.
BENNETT

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